MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D.C., APRIL 21, 1939

The ninth meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1939 was held in its office in the Interior Department Building on Friday, April 21, 1939. The following members were present:

Mr. Clarke, Chairman,
Mr. Savage,
Mr. Borie,
Mr. Shepley,
Mr. Lamb,
Mr. Manship,
also H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary and Administrative Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a. m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The minutes of the meetings held January 27 and March 9, 1939, were approved.

2. MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE BRIDGE: The secretary presented a sketch received from Captain H. C. Whitehurst, Director of Highways, for the proposed bridge to cross Rock Creek Park at Massachusetts Avenue. Legislation for the bridge is contained in the pending District of Columbia Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1939, as follows:

> For the construction of a bridge in line of Massachusetts Avenue northwest over Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway in accordance with plans and profiles to be approved by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, including necessary changes, construction, and reconstruction of roadways, sidewalks and curbing, construction of and changes in sewer and water mains, fire alarm and police patrol boxes, construction, reconstruction, and relocation of parkway roads, walkways, and such other work as may be necessary, travel expenses in connection with the inspection of material at the point of manufacture, employment of engineering and other professional services by contract or otherwise, without reference to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (41 U. S. C. 5), or the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, and civil-service requirements, including engineering and incidental expenses, $175,000, and in addition thereto the unexpended balance of the appropriation of $125,000 contained in the District of Columbia Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1939 for the construction of an

additional culvert under Massachusetts Avenue northwest, is hereby reappropriated and made available for the construction of such bridge, and the Commissioners are authorized to enter into contract or contracts for the completion of such bridge at a cost not to exceed $550,000;

The secretary also presented sketches received from the National Park Service suggesting an open bridge similar to the Connecticut Avenue Bridge for the Massachusetts Avenue site.

Mr. Clarke said: "We have had stone bridges across Rock Creek and we ought to continue them. The Calvert Street Bridge is of stone. When we were discussing the widening of Connecticut Avenue in connection with the Calvert Street Bridge some one made the statement that when the Connecticut Avenue Bridge is widened it should be widened with solid arches." Mr. Clarke then asked the architect members of the Commission to express their opinions. Mr. Borie, Mr. Shepley and Mr. Lamb objected to the open type of bridge. Mr. Lamb said that it is too utilitarian; it has no serenity, no repose. Mr. Moore had the following comments to make:

> I am heartily in favor of the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge to replace the viaduct which never should have been built. It was constructed during a long vacation of Congress, primarily to accommodate real estate interests having dirt to dispose of; and I well remember the chagrin when Congress came back to find that treatment. The bridge seems an infinitely better solution than the proposed second hole through the dirt.

The design submitted suggested a stone arch bridge to be about 480 feet in length. It was noted that the span of the arch had a width of 230 feet. Mr. Clarke did not like the slots in the wall because they are an affectation of medieval architecture. Mr. Lamb asked if a full stone arch would restrict the span too much, and Mr. Clarke replied that he thought the Commission ought to see the alignment of the parkway to determine if it is a big enough opening. He thought the charm of the valley lies in stopping the landscape view at the bridge and starting it again on the other side. The Commission agreed to the

stone arched bridge type and recommended that the District Commissioners employ an architect to make a design. Captain Whitehurst was informed accordingly. (Exhibit A)

Later in the day during the joint meeting with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Captain Whitehurst informed Mr. Clarke that the District Commissioners had appointed Louis Justement the architect of the bridge.

3. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LIBRARY: Mr. Nathan C. Wyeth, Municipal Architect, in company with Dr. George F. Bowerman, Librarian of the District of Columbia, submitted a design for a new public library at John Marshall Place and Pennsylvania Avenue. Mr. Wyeth had designed the building to extend the full length of the street from John Marshall Place to Sixth Street along Pennsylvania Avenue. Mr. Wyeth pointed out that the facade was designed to conform to that of the Apex Building on the south side of Pennsylvania Avenue and to be of the same height and to have an entrance in the center of the block. The building squares up with the Municipal Center Building and sets back from the curb on Pennsylvania Avenue 26 feet. There will be parking space in the courts.

The Board of Education is to occupy a portion of the building. Mr. Shepley asked if it is very essential that the Board of Education occupy this space. Dr. Bowerman replied that it was not essential and added: "We were very well satisfied with the first plan without any entangling alliances and also liked the parking space and then a letter was received from the Park and Planning Commission stating that this square cost $1,500,000 and ought to be more fully utilized. Secondly, the framing of the National Gallery of Art is an important matter. This necessitated a building to cover the entire lot and then we had to find a tenant for it." Mr. Wyeth said the National Capital Park and Planning Commission wanted the vista through Sixth Street to be symmetrical and that was another

reason for building the library to the edge of Sixth Street. For the present, Mr. Wyeth explained there are two buildings, namely the Ford Building at John Marshall Place and the old National Hotel Building at Sixth Street used for a National Armory, which will probably remain for a while. The first unit of the library building will thus be built between those two buildings giving rise to the question where to place the door. The Commission advised that it would be better to adopt a design for a building to cover the entire block with an entrance in the center of the square on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Thereupon criticisms were made of the facade. Mr. Shepley called attention to the penthouse. Mr. Wyeth was of the opinion that one would scarcely see it. Mr. Lamb asked what the penthouse is going to be used for and was informed by Mr. Wyeth that some of it would be used for offices. They will be on the court side so that they will not show in elevation. Mr. Lamb remarked that that is why he thought Mr. Wyeth should build up the central motif because it will be necessary to recognize the mechanical equipment. The Extensible Building of the Agriculture Department was cited as a very bad example of penthouses.

Mr. Wyeth was asked to eliminate the red roof which Mr. Shepley had criticized at the last meeting in Washington. Mr. Wyeth asked if the general mass of the building was acceptable. Mr. Lamb said: "My impression is that the Pennsylvania Avenue front is somewhat flat. It would be worthwhile to study either a projecting central motif so that a person will realize he is stepping back toward the main building or use some other form that will give a little more color. Since the building is to be about 388 feet long, I question whether there should not be a little more play of shadow. The New York Public Library is about that length. In this building there could be breaks of perhaps three to four feet at the sides of the projecting central motif and it might be advisable to let that central mass come to the 26-foot setback so that the bulk of the

building would be set back further and pick up the line of the commercial buildings." Mr. Shepley remarked that the central motif on this building is very much like that of the Apex Building--the loggia has the same number of bays and the same sort of base. Mr. Wyeth said the Apex Building and the Library have been designed to be symmetrical to form a sort of gateway on Pennsylvania Avenue, and asked if Pennsylvania Avenue is to be a monumental avenue possessed of some dignity or if there is to be variety in the detailed treatment. Mr. Lamb replied that the general scheme should be kept harmonious but with some differences in style. At the same time the building should conform to characteristic Washington architecture."

The Commission expressed preference for a building that will have a central entrance on Pennsylvania Avenue. Mr. Wyeth is to give study to the facade so as to show breaks in it; also the central motif may break through the cornice. Further study is to be given to the penthouses. The general character of the building was thought to be in the right direction and it was considered appropriate for the location on Pennsylvania Avenue.

4. NURSES HOME (FREEDMEN'S HOSPITAL): Under date of April 11, 1939, the following letter was received from Hon. Oscar Chapman, Assistant Secretary of the Interior:

My dear Mr. Clarke:

On February 20, the Fine Arts Commission approved plans for the tuberculosis unit and nurses quarters therefor at Freedmen's Hospital, which plans provided for locating the nurses quarters on the foundation of the old Hospital power plant.

In working out the details for the nurses home it became apparent that it could not be placed, with the funds available, at the approved

location because of prohibitive costs of moving certain equipment. The architect has submitted a plan to locate the nurses home to the south of the tuberculosis unit, with which it will harmonize, as indicated on the attached drawing.

It is requested that this change be approved by the Fine Arts Commission. In view of the desire to get the project under way as quickly as possible, it will be appreciated if the Commission will give the plan consideration at an early date.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Oscar L. Chapman,
Assistant Secretary.

The Commission noted that the design for the building had been approved and thereupon agreed to the relocation of the nurses home as indicated in the design submitted. (Exhibit B)

5. NAVAL HOSPITAL: Mr. Clarke read a letter from Mr. Delano to the President and to Dr. Cret and Dr. Cret's reply on the subject of the new Naval Hospital Buildings. (Exhibit C) Mr. Clarke said: "I did not want to do anything about it until we discussed the matter. It is out of our jurisdiction. It will do not good to openly approve the scheme adopted and we are only getting ourselves into a difficult controversy. The design was submitted by Admiral Rossiter, who presented a design for a tower which he said had been suggested by the President. We voted with the Park and Planning Commission to disapprove it."

Mr. Borie said: "The tower isn't part of the hospital at all--it is largely quarters for Army and Navy officers on leave. I think we ought to back up Mr. Delano." Mr. Manship suggested: "Can't we do it this way: while this isn't a matter within our jurisdiction we are interested in the buildings affecting the appearance of the Capitol Building and we believe this is a danger-

ous precedent to set and hope it will not be realized." Mr. Clarke explained that the location is out at Bethesda, Maryland, and that approaching Washington from certain directions the tower might easily silhouette against the sky and loom up higher than the dome of the Capitol. He said: "If that is the case, we are interested. Is it the sense of the meeting that the Commission express its opinion to the Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and back up his views? Can that be done in a letter to Mr. Delano? If he wants to he can transmit it and use it in any way he sees fit." Mr. Lamb asked if the letter should not be used rather unofficially for though actually it is out of our district, broadly it is really our business.

It was agreed that the Chairman should write a letter to Mr. Delano stating that while this is a matter not within our jurisdiction we are interested in buildings affecting the appearance of the National Capital and the Capitol Building and we believe this is a dangerous precedent to set and hope it will not be realized. We are in accord because we feel it will have an unfortunate effect. (Exhibit C-1)

6. MARCONI MEMORIAL: Under date of April 11, 1939, Mr. Samuel DiFalco, Secretary of the Marconi Memorial Association, submitted the following letter:

Dear Mr. Caemmerer:

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Trustees have decided in a change in the type of monument and expect to have this new model ready within a week at which time we will communicate with you and make all of the arrangements necessary for the acceptance of the site and the acceptance of the model for the monument.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

(Signed) S. Samuel DiFalco.

The secretary submitted photographs of the revised model and the Commission were pleased with the scheme. The model suggested a portrait bust of Marconi in front of a marble shaft some twelve feet high, surmounted by a figure resting on a sphere. The photographs were brought to the attention of Mr. Manship, who expressed the opinion that the surmounting figure might well be of bronze, which ought to be gilded. Also he felt the surmounting figure is slightly large in size and the sphere on which the figure is mounted should be brought out a little more clearly in form. The Commission approved the sketch models subject to these criticisms, which were brought to the attention of Mr. DiFalco. (Exhibit D) A copy of the letter was sent to Mr. Attilio Piccirilli. (Exhibit D-1)

7. WASHINGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT: At the joint meeting of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission Mr. W. E. Reynolds, Assistant Director of the Procurement Division, and Colonel Sumpter Smith, Chairman of the Airport Development Committee, submitted a design for relocation of a portion of the Mt. Vernon Highway between Washington and Four-Mile-Run so as to place it on the west side of the Agriculture Department Laboratory Buildings and along the railroad tracks. After discussion the following resolution was adopted by both Commissions:

> MOTION unanimously carried by both Commissions that the west line for relocation of the Mt. Vernon Highway, as shown on plan bearing File No. be approved by the Commission, subject to an understood agreement that final detailed plans will have to be submitted to this Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts for approval.

This action was taken with a distinct understanding that the Mt. Vernon Highway would be properly screened from the railroad and that a landscape plan of this portion of the highway would be submitted for approval by both Commissions.

8. DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTH SIDE OF PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE: At the joint meeting of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission Mr. Nolen submitted a design for a garage building to be built between Sixth and Seventh Streets on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue. The question was raised whether such a structure should be permitted and whether a plan should be adopted for acquiring all the land on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue by the Government.

It was pointed out that at the present time the Government owns all the land extending from the Capitol to Sixth Street. The acquisition of the square between Sixth and Seventh Streets it was thought would not be undertaken by the Government in the near future. It was thus decided to interpose no objection to the erection of the garage building with the understanding that it is more or less of a temporary nature and that the design, since it comes in the Shipstead-Luce Act area, would be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for criticism; also with the understanding that no driveway into the garage would be allowed from Pennsylvania Avenue.

See their minutes 4-21-39 [illegible]

9. ARCHITECTURAL STANDARDS FOR EAST CAPITOL STREET: Mr. Nolen requested the advice of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts concerning architectural standards for the end of East Capitol Street. He said there is a movement on foot to build a warehouse in the locality. The Commission discussed the matter and called attention to the plan that had been adopted heretofore for an armory and stadium in this locality. Both Commissions agreed that the architectural standards set by such structures, calling for well designed buildingsat least faced with brick, should be adhered to for the end of East Capitol Street.

10. RELOCATION OF STEPS FOR CITY POST OFFICE BUILDING: Mr. Louis Simon, Supervising Architect, submitted a design for relocating the steps of the City

Post Office fronting Massachusetts Avenue so as to provide for widening Massachusetts Avenue ten feet at that point. The Commission approved the design. (Exhibit E)

11. PORTRAIT OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT BY MRS. RAND: In accordance with arrangements made Mr. Savage inspected the portrait of President Franklin D. Roosevelt by Mrs. Rand at the White House. Mr. Savage reported that he considered the portrait suitable for a place in the White House.

12. WOODROW WILSON PORTRAIT: Under date of March 23, 1939, the following letter was referred by Secretary McIntyre to the Commission of Fine Arts for advice:

11 Monitor Place,
West New York, N. J.
March 21, 1939

President Roosevelt
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am mailing under separate cover, a photograph of my original painting of the late Woodrow Wilson.

I am interested in presenting this to the Government that it may have a place in the White House.

This is, by far, the best work I have done, and I have spent a great deal of time before completing it.

The picture portrays the late President as he would like to have been remembered. Wilson, the Idealist, the Educator. I have tried to bring out these qualities in my work together with the honest sincerity and enthusiasm that prompted him in everything he did. I feel that this work would prove a source of great enlightenment to the public as to the real nature of the man, and the powers that guided him in all he did. It is a kindly tribute that I, in my small way, am trying to make. I would be justly proud, as an American citizen to have contributed my small share in presenting this work to my country, that thousands of people would be able to see and profit from it.

I would be very grateful if you would offer me your guidance upon this matter.

Respectfully,
(Signed) Boris Plenkovich.

The Commission concurred in the criticisms by Mr. Savage and a letter was sent to Secretary McIntyre accordingly. (Exhibit F)

13. PAINTINGS OF THE ROCKEFELLER COLLECTION: Mr. Clarke brought to the attention of the Commission a collection of photographs of the paintings of the Percy Rockefeller Collection of New York that he had received from Mr. Jonce McGurk of New York City. These were inspected by the Commission. Mr. Savage and Mr. Manship submitted a report concerning the paintings and sculpture of the collection, to which the Commission gave its approval and the reports were embodied in a letter sent to Secretary McIntyre. (Exhibit G)

14. PAINTING FOR THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING: Under date of April 20, 1939, the following letter was received from Mr. Edward B. Rowan, Assistant Chief of the Fine Arts Section, Treasury Department, for paintings in the Department of the Interior:

Dear Mr. Clarke:

> Reference is made to the mural designs by Mr. Edgar Britton for two panels, fourth floor lobby, north, new Department of the Interior Building dealing with the subject of Petroleum. Photographs of the designs were previously submitted to the Commission for its comment and advice and Mr. Savage asked that color sketches and any revisions be submitted for further study. Attached herewith are the original color sketches together with black and white revisions which I am pleased to tell you have not only the approval of the members of the Section but on April 19, 1939, were approved by the Secretary of the Interior. The comments and advice of the Commission will be greatly appreciated.

Very cordially yours,
(Signed) Edward B. Rowan,
Assistant Chief, Section of Fine Arts.

The sketches were brought to the particular attention of Mr. Savage who inspected them and approved the design of the paintings as revised. Also Mr. Savage considered the color scheme satisfactory. A report was sent to Mr. Rowan accordingly. (Exhibit H)

15. AMENDING THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT: The Secretary presented a copy of House Bill No. 5660 introduced by Representative Keller proposing to amend the taking line of the Shipstead-Luce Act so as to include Lafayette Square. The Commission took note of this bill with interest. (Exhibit I)

16. LAFAYETTE BUILDING: The Secretary reported that he had talked with Mr. A. R. Clas, Associate Architect for the Lafayette Building, who had informed him that the architects, Holabird and Root, are still studying the facade for the cornice at Vermont Avenue and H Street and expect to submit a design to the Commission of Fine Arts in the very near future.

17. APARTMENT HOUSE ALONG THE LEE BOULEVARD: Mr. Clarke said that Mr. Caemmerer has called attention to a scheme to erect an apartment building between the Lee Boulevard and the north wall of Arlington Cemetery, which will encroach on the cemetery and threaten to be a serious matter. Mr. F. A. Delano, who was present said:

"I can explain something that goes before this. Seven or eight years ago our Commission were asked to consider a site for a Woodrow Wilson Memorial and we went over on the Virginia side and saw on the line of the Mall extending into Virginia there was land that would be a fine site for a memorial and we recommended it at that time. At the same time we, all of us, concluded that it would be too bad if the property should not be added to Arlington Cemetery. Since that time I learned that under the law every veteran of the World War is entitled to be buried in Arlington Cemetery. Of course, that is quite a privilege in more ways than one--it saves posterity the expense of a grave, so it is a popular place to be buried; a good many members of Congress are availing themselves of that privilege, as well as members of the Cabinet. Mr. Taft was buried here on the heights in a beautiful lot; Robert Lincoln was buried there. He had been Secretary of War.

The property there, about 25 acres, belongs to a man named Nevius, who is one of the subordinate officers of the Riggs National Bank; he says every now and then if the Government does not want his property, he is going to dispose of it. The story got out that it is proposed to build a hotel there. Just lately I got the War Department to the point where they were ready to consider purchasing that property and when they came to study it they actually found they needed it. They have not anything like space enough if they obey the requirements of the law. They save the high ground for the officers and put enlisted men in the more level places. So they are really actively thinking about it. I don't know whether this man Nevius thinks it is opportune to get a little steam on by threatening his hotel. The Park and Planning Commission will send you a plan showing the ownership."

Mr. Clarke asked if it would be advisable for the Commission of Fine Arts to address a letter to the Secretary of War on the subject. Mr. Delano thought so, saying: "You saw it in the papers and feel it would be most unfortunate." The Commission agreed that a letter be written to the Secretary of War, concurring with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission in this matter. (Exhibit J) Copies of the letter were sent also to the Chairmen of the Committees on Military Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives. (Exhibit J-1)

18. NATIONAL MUSEUM EXTENSION (NATURAL HISTORY BUILDING): The Commission considered very carefully the recommendation of Mr. F. A. Delano, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, for reconsideration of the question of extensions to the National Museum Building. The Commission also considered a set of plans illustrating the scheme.

Mr. Clarke said: "I don't think Mr. Delano will bring this matter up at the joint meeting with the Planning Commission but he wrote me a letter in reply to mine. I sent all of you copies of it. I wrote him a two-page letter and I

attached to that letter a copy of a memorandum that Mr. Partridge had written to the Planning Commission in which he vigorously recommended disapproval. Since then Partridge has apparently changed his mind, but after all, Mr. Partridge made a better statement than any of us made. It was a stronger argument, as he served on the McMillan Park Commission of 1901. Mr. Clarke read Mr. Delano's letter and the reply. (Exhibits K and K-1) He then read Mr. Moore's letter on the subject:

Gig Harbor, April 5, '39

Dear Major Clarke:

* * * *

As for the extension of the Natural History Building. The original plans were prepared by Hornblower and Marshall, about the best architects of Washington. They seemed as bad as could be and I got Bernard Green, in charge of construction, to get the advice of Burnham and McKim, necessarily unofficially. He had got Mr. Cannon to agree to setting the building back to the 1901 Mall line. Only recently McKim had fought the Agricultural Building back in opposition to the department and Congress; and perhaps, Mr. Cannon didn't want another contest with Roosevelt in the White House. At any rate he sent for Mr. Green to ask if the new building location was in accordance with the damned Park Commission plan. Mr. Green, being both a friend of the plan and a diplomat as well answered that it did not conflict with the Mall plan. Mr. Cannon let it go at that.

Personally I was never in favor of extensions to the building, preferring to use the courts for additional room, especially as artificial lighting was to be used. Wyeth drew plans for extensions--plain unpierced granite walls. The architect members of the Commission approved them. I was pleased when the appropriation failed and have hoped that the building would never be extended. I have not seen the new plans, but from the nature of things (and persons) would not expect them to show the restraint Wyeth exercised.

I hope that what Mr. Delano refers to as the spasm of economy will strike this project and the one for the gallery on the south side of the Mall as at present contemplated. (Mr. Borie must pardon me.) I think that there should be two buildings instead of one, and the street between kept open. It is going to be difficult to get a two-squares long building to face the Art Gallery, to which in materials and elaborateness generally it must be subordinate. Just marble would

not do the trick. Notice the use of marble (insisted on by Congress) in the Congressional Library Annex--a silk gown by a country dressmaker.

There is nothing to go into the new big building worthy the size. Two buildings would be duly subordinate, and would be good enough for the second rate paintings and sculpture, the best having been taken over by the National Gallery. If the project goes over there would be time to decide about the contents, much of which will come from the buildings to be torn down east of the Smithsonian--including the Ladies of the White House in original gowns.

Being across a continent makes one brash in kicking against the pricks.

Yours ever, with remembrances and regards to
the Commission,
(Signed) Charles Moore.

Mr. Borie said: "I want to emphasize this point. Dr. Wetmore has never justified in plan the need for the extension. He just wants a big building . He has never made a program."

Mr. Clarke submitted the sketches for the extensions, which were inspected by the Commission. They suggested a building about 1,000 feet in length. Mr. Shepley said: "I am really surprised that it is as good as it is." Mr. Manship felt that it gives a false impression. Mr. Clarke pointed out that the original Mall Plan had two rows of rather small buildings relatively about the scale of the Freer Gallery. The Mellon Gallery does not mass up because of deep re-entrant courts. Mr. Borie felt that a building of that size with the proposed extensions for a museum is entirely out of proportion to its contents. It is so big a person becomes perfectly lost in it. It does not conform to present day museum planning. In other words, the material should be in separate buildings. Mr. Lamb said: "I think the Commission is going to be very weak if we make objections for practical reasons. I think we ought to take a stand in the matter of architecture only." Mr. Clarke pointed out that three buildings are indicated

in the Plan of 1901 where there is now to be one building. He said that we you drive along Constitution Avenue instead of your eye filtering through into the Mall as as present, you would be in a trough between these huge buildings--which would be exceedingly unfortunate.

Mr. Lamb made this comment: "We have all objected strongly to the Department of Commerce, which is 1,050 feet in length, and this is almost 1,000 feet itself; almost as big as the Department of Commerce, and I have not found one person who does not dislike that building because of its bulky, huge size; that isn't facing on the Mall--this is. I think a building that long, establishing a precedent in the Mall, is going to take away all of the charm and all of the monumentality. The Capitol is the main building at the head of the Mall. With these huge buildings in front of it, it will be dwarfed."

Mr. Clarke said: "This area as it is now, is full of trees and is very charming. I was down there this morning and walked around and I just can't conceive of this addition." Mr. Lamb asked why they could not fill up the courts. Mr. Borie said that he had taken that up with Dr. Wetmore, and Dr. Wetmore had said he was "keeping that up his sleeve". "He is going to get the big building and then do that." Mr. Clarke added that in 1901 all that was expected was buildings like the Freer--groups of comparatively small buildings. "If you notice the philosophy of that plan you will see in almost every case there are three buildings where they are now proposing one."

The Chairman asked Mr. Shepley to speak for the Commission at the conference with Mr. Delano in the afternoon.

When in the afternoon the matter was considered further with Mr. Delano, Mr. Shepley said: "I have heard all the arguments and read the correspondence and I think what the Commission feels is that the original conception of the Mall

was a border of small buildings in among the trees and then the wall of the Triangle group. That was the conception of the Plan of 1901. The first building that was built was the Department of Agriculture which started to break up that idea. The second was the Natural History Building, which was much larger than it should have been. The original setback was agreed to on the basis that it would be a smaller building. The largest building that has been authorized is the Mellon Gallery, that is almost as large as the Capitol. The buildings on either side of the Mall were intended to be small buildings, leading up to the Capitol. The Mellon Gallery is more or less helped by small bays which break the long facade so that it does not become a second wall within the Mall. The Mall is lined by the buildings in the Triangle. I think we all feel that enlarging the Natural History Building is really bringing a second wall in, filling up almost all the space. It would be 250 feet longer than the Capitol and would have more of a unit facade than the Capitol. We think the handling of the problem and the elevation as indicated in the sketch is extremely skillful but even then it is almost an unbroken wall and I do not think any of us really feel we could say we like it--it is really against what the Mall was originally planned for, which was a row of relatively small buildings leading up to the Capitol, the big building, and on the outside the Mall is surrounded by a wall of buildings. The Plan of 1901 had three buildings in the lot which is now to hold one building. The right hand drawing approaches what we are thinking the Mall should be--a series of small buildings giving a sense of views filtering through to Constitution Avenue. We think the south side of the Mall will take care of itself because there really isn't room to build a long building there."

Mr. Borie said: "We have studied this and tried to understand the situation and I don't think any of us can bring ourselves to liking it. I raised the question, Mr. Delano, of plan in museum management, practice and control. There

is no effort made to justify the requirements. Dr. Wetmore, although I have discussed it with him once or twice, is undecided as to how he is going to use the building and what logical development his building will take. I don't think he has thought out the matter. He simply says he wants exhibition space and space for storage. He is very vague about justifying additional area under one roof and in the matter of the material he would put into the extensions." Mr. Shepley mentioned the fact that at a previous meeting of the Park and Planning Commission he was asked to study an arrangement of his material in two additional buildings along the Mall. Mr. Delano remarked that Dr. Wetmore objected very strongly to that. Mr. Borie said: "My statement as to museum requirements was based on talks with museum people. Museum experts do not advocate huge collections under one roof; they feel it is far better to have them classified and placed in small groups. Dr. Abbot is an astronomer and physicist and Dr. Wetmore is an ornithologist by profession. I do not think we have progressed very far on museums here in Washington. Since we are very loathe to make this into the largest building that is facing the Mall isn't there some one who could investigate how really necessary this is?"

Mr. Delano then said: "Mr. Shepley has given reasons why your Commission objects to this. I do not object to this Commission or any other Commission changing its mind but in this particular case it involves considerable difficulty. At the time we were considering the building Mr. Platt made a design for a building here. In our Commission we have considered the Mall as a whole and we have thought that since the streets are few, these large buildings if they are not too high would be agreeable but I am not setting up my opinion against yours but think there are some arguments; Partridge has helped us a good deal. He has rather convinced me that a large unit would look better than several little

units. Personally I do not set myself up as an architect. I try to learn from seeing, from what other men do. I can't help thinking that this building would be better with extensions than without. It has a rather stubby dome. But here is our difficulty, we have an enabling act for wings on this building, and unless we can tell Congress we favor it, we have to have something by way of modification of it. I even have the assurance of the Speaker of the House that he will get us the money for these wings this year. If we tell him that this has now been turned down after having previously been approved by the Commission of Fine Arts we are up against something that our Board of Regents thinks is extremely important. They are led to that opinion because of the large amount of material that is in store in the basement and the number of things that have been offered to us that have been turned down. I admit that there are a lot of collections of rocks and things that are unnecessary and if I were running that museum I would store them and put some more worthwhile material on exhibition. But when Partridge was making these plans I tried with him to see if we could not get a system, a way of exhibiting these things so that the visitor when here could see the collection readily with the least amount of locomotion. I believe a man ought to take a wheel chair and go around just as he does in the World's Fair. The buildings are getting too big to do them on foot. We made an honest effort to comply with Mr. Clarke's suggestion of having two buildings connected by a low section. I can't say I am enthusiastic about it.

"Another thing is that the area for the museums isn't so very large. It is confined to the area between Twelfth Street and the Monument Grounds. We infer we don't want to have museum buildings on the other side of the Washington Monument. This property has been valued at anywhere from $25 to $50 a square foot. Our Park and Planning Commission has recommended that this property down

here below Independence Avenue be added to the available ground and we suppose some of the buildings adjacent to the Smithsonian will be put below the Avenue. The Smithsonian is in a peculiar position. It is an institution for the advancement of science but every year Congress has thrown upon its lap material they think should be preserved from various expeditions. For instance an antarctic expedition comes back with a lot of material and it is dumped into the Smithsonian. Of course, we could put all the things of that sort in basements and storerooms, but we are getting short of that space. Actually, in the Mall we have just two locations at present--the Smithsonian Gallery of modern art and this location. So far as using the square to the west of the National Museum it would be reserved for museum purposes. I do not know that we can change the thing over night. Mr. Ickes wanted to build his Interior Department there and I had to fight very hard on that on account of my position in the Smithsonian. I had to say that that was reserved for a gallery of art and we had this preliminary drawing made by Platt but there is no telling when some big department will put in a big building. The terrible thing about it will be that it might be higher."

Mr. Clarke said the Commission felt strongly that the barrier created on the north side of Constitution Avenue should not be repeated on the south side. "The Mellon Gallery is longer than many of us would like to have it. The fact that it has re-entrant courts disguises its great length. Now as to the change of architecture of the National Museum, the extensions will make the original building look worse." Mr. Shepley asked if they entirely object to building in the courts. Mr. Delano replied: "I have not put it up to the whole Board of Regents. What they would tell me would be: 'You told us that this had been approved by the Commission of Fine Arts and now the Commission of Fine Arts reverses its opinion.'"

Mr. Clarke said: "Mr. Moore wrote and said that though the architects were for it, he was not in favor of it. Isn't there a possibility of your putting it up to the Regents and laying the onus on our shoulders and let us meet with them and discuss it? I can't help feeling that we would be very much happier. The Natural History Museum is now so large that it is appalling. Going and visiting two museums has more interest than going through one great big one."

The Commission agreed to the suggestion of the Chairman that a conference on the subject be held with the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian some time at their convenience.

19. ARLINGTON BRIDGE STATUARY: The Commission considered with Mr. Fraser and Mr. C. Marshall Finnan, Superintendent of the National Capital Parks, the question of completion of the statuary for the Arlington Memorial Bridge. Mr. Finnan said: We have a balance now of $171,143, which according to the original contract would be enough money to complete the work, but which it has been thought by this Commission is not enough. However, we have been approached by one granite company and also by the Georgia Marble Company and they think we have sufficient funds to complete those two groups if a contract is made with them for procuring the equestrian statues, with Mr. Fraser and Mr. Friedlander supervising the work. We thought if we could have Mr. Fraser and Mr. Friedlander supervise the carving we would enter into the contract for the work and take the sculptors out of the business of making contracts.

Mr. Savage asked why it would not be possible for the sculptors to nominate a list of three carvers. Thereupon Mr. Fraser said: "We would want to name the carvers for the work. We would be afraid if you let any granite concern into a contract like that; a sculptor should be allowed to hire his own carvers."

Mr. Clarke said: "Mr. Finnan recommends that bids be advertised for the completion of the work either in granite or marble by contractors and that the sculptors be employed on a consultation basis to superintend and supervise the work." Mr. Fraser brought up the question as to how there would be control over the carvers, since very few of them are competent. Mr. Manship advised that one has to be very careful not to include people who are incompetent. They have all got to be in the class with Piccirilli. Mr. Clarke then asked if it would be possible in the contract to name a dozen carvers. Mr. Shepley said that in P. W. A. contracts only three have to be named. Mr. Finnan added the information that carvers in Washington are union men. Mr. Fraser called attention then to the fact that down South there is no union. In roughing out the statues it is possible for the carver to use non-union men but for the finished carving they use union men.

Mr. Finnan asked how many carvers there should be. Mr. Fraser replied that it would take a year and a half and about ten carvers. Mr. Fraser said: I have forgotten what my figures are but I know I would not get anything out of it. I think we said it would cost something like $90,000 for two equestrians, and that was sometime ago; and it depends on getting men that I can trust. The carving in marble would probably be $35,000 and in granite $35,000--$50,000. In the long run the cost depends on the number of pieces you use. I have the number of pieces down to four or six. To get the stone out of the quarry is the big cost. Mr. Clarke asked if it would be advisable to get bids on four pieces of stone in marble or granite and, then on six pieces of stone in marble or granite, and that the sculptors be the consultants and have the choice of carvers.

Mr. Clarke said: Could you not write it into your specifications that the sculptors must select the carvers? It seems to me there must be some way to work

it out and satisfy all parties. If we let this thing go now it will never be done. Mr. Fraser said: What I want to do is to have the carving done in the quarry in Georgia. I would like to get Quattrociocchi, who has a machine which carves for just half the price of the union. Also I would like to be permitted to take up this matter with certain granite and marble firms with a view to getting bids that will assure the completion of these four statues with the money available. The Commission agreed that Mr. Fraser do this.

20. ALBERT GALLATIN STATUE: Mr. Louis Simon, Supervising Architect, and Mr. James E. Fraser, sculptor, submitted a sketch for the pedestal of the Albert Gallatin Statue, to be erected at the north entrance of the Treasury Department Building in the space at present occupied by an old fountain.

In connection with the sketch, designs submitted by Mr. Simon and by Mr. Swartwout were noted but were not considered to be as satisfactory as the sketch submitted by Mr. Fraser. The sketch suggested a pedestal nine feet high. Mr. Fraser said: "We have two drawings for the same spot. Years ago I had Mr. Swartwout make a drawing for the pedestal intended for the west side of the building. Now Mr. Simon has submitted one for the north side. I have a drawing showing two steps instead of three, the steps being nine inches high. I think it is an improvement on Mr. Simon's design." Mr. Fraser added that he understood it was planned to raise the sunken plaza sometime to street level and as this would affect the appearance of the statue he proposed to study the model so that the figure of Gallatin would look well on a low pedestal when the plaza is raised. The Commission approved the sketch for the pedestal and Mr. Simon was informed accordingly. (Exhibit L)

Mr. Fraser submitted the text of an inscription for the pedestal, which with a few changes was agreed to, as follows:

ALBERT GALLATIN
1761 -- 1849
SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
GENIUS OF FINANCE
AMBASSADOR OF PEACE FOR
THE WAR OF EIGHTEEN TWELVE
MINISTER TO FRANCE
AND UNFAILING
CHAMPION OF DEMOCRACY

The text of the inscription was thereupon brought to the attention of Mr. Moore, who recommended the following:

ALBERT GALLATIN
1761 - 1849
SENATOR AND REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS
SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
COMMISSIONER TO MAKE THE
TREATY OF GHENT
MINISTER TO FRANCE AND GREAT BRITAIN

This was subsequently agreed to, with a slight modification. (Exhibit L-1)

21. ALTERATION OF STORE BUILDING AT 205-207 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, S. E.: The Inspector of Buildings of the District of Columbia submitted a design (Application No. 756) for alteration of a clothing store at 205-207 Pennsylvania Avenue S. E. opposite the Library of Congress Annex. Of two schemes submitted the Commission approved scheme B.

22. STORE BUILDING ALONG THE MT. VERNON HIGHWAY: Mr. E. Burton Corning, architect, submitted for advice the design for a store building to be built at the edge of Alexandria near the Mt. Vernon Highway. The design suggested a colonial type of building. Mr. Lamb indicated certain changes in the design, which were agreed to by the Commission.

23. BUTT-MILLET MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN: The National Park Service submitted a design for relocation of the Butt-Millet Fountain from its present site south of the White House grounds to a location in the President's Park along 17th Street on the axis of D Street. The Commission approved the design.

24. DOGWOOD PLANTING PLAN: The National Park Service submitted a design for planting dogwood in Potomac Park. This was submitted to Mr. Clarke and upon his recommendation was approved by the Commission.

25. PAVING COURT DD OF THE NEW INTERIOR BUILDING: The National Park Service submitted a paving plan for Court DD of the new Interior Department Building. The Commission concurred in the flagstone to be used but suggested that marble or granite might be used for the cross walks instead of greenstone.

26. FREER GALLERY OF ART: The Commission went to the Freer Gallery of Art to inspect certain objects proposed for purchase by Dr. Lodge, the Curator. The Commission considered them to be excellent and approved their purchase. (Exhibit M)

27. PLAQUE OF JUSTICE GRAY FOR THE SUPREME COURT BUILDING: Under date of February 13, 1939, the following letter was received from Mr. Thomas E. Waggaman, Marshall of the Supreme Court of the United States:

My dear Mr. Caemmerer:

After our conversation of this morning in regard to Mr. Moore of your Commission, I informed our Art Committee that you did not expect Mr. Moore in Washington for six to eight months.

They, thereupon, accepted the kind offer of yours and Mr. Manship's assistance to criticise the frame and lighting, which we are preparing for the bronze bas-relief of Mr. Justice Gray, of this court, by Augustus Saint-Gaudens.

If you will be good enough to inform me as to the day and hour it will be convenient for you to call, I will bring it to the attention of the Committee of the Court as Mr. Justice Stone has signified his desire to be present when you make your inspection.

Thanking you for your cooperation, I am

Very sincerely yours,
(Signed) Thomas E. Waggaman,
Marshall, Supreme Court, U. S.

Mr. Manship inspected the plaque late in the afternoon and approved a suitable location for it as also a suitable frame for the plaque. At the request of Mr. Waggaman, Mr. Manship while there advised concerning several other works of art which were brought to his attention.

The Commission adjourned at 6:00 p. m.

April 26, 1939.

Dear Captain Whitehurst:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on April 21, 1939, considered the sketch you submitted suggesting a stone arch bridge to cross the Rock Creek Parkway at Massachusetts Avenue. The Commission favor this type of bridge for the location.

The Commission feel, however, that certain improvements can be made in the design. Its relation to the Rock Creek Parkway should be carefully studied in a manner to insure that the arch does not restrict the parkway and Rock Creek in any way.

The Commission felt that the design of the bridge indicated an affectation of medieval architecture and suggests simplification by removal of the slots in the masonry walls. There is also a question of kind of stone for the bridge which the Commission would like to consider with you. We will be glad to cooperate with you and with your architect in the detailed development of this important project.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Captain H. C. Whitehurst
Director of Highways
District Building
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT A

C O P Y

April 24, 1939.

My dear Mr. Chapman:

The Commission of Fine Arts at the meeting on April 21, had before them your letter of April 11, and the design submitted therewith suggesting a new location for the nurses home to be built in connection with the Tuberculosis Hospital Building at the Freedmen's Hospital.

The Commission approve the location of the nurses home as indicated in the design.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Chairman.

Hon. Oscar L. Chapman,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT B

C O P Y

NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
Washington

April 3, 1939.

Mr. Paul P. Cret,
Architects Building,
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Mr. Cret:

I understand that you are the consulting architect and have approved the design of the proposed Naval Hospital building. You perhaps are not interested with the limitations as to height and bulk of buildings that we have tried to adhere to in Washington because we did not want to see the City develop as New York City and Philadelphia have developed, but are trying to hold it down to proportions which will not dwarf the Nation's Capitol.

Of course it was equally desirable that we should hold a restraining hand on the nearby counties of Virginia and Maryland. By this action in re the Naval Hospital, it is perfectly possible for a hotel or apartment building to be built within two miles of the Capitol Dome with the same sort of monstrous bulky tower which you have placed on this Naval Hospital. I am not criticizing its architecture because I am not a professional architect, but I do feel very badly about what has been done.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Frederic A. Delano,
Chairman.

EXHIBIT C

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
Washington

My dear Mr. Delano: April 25, 1939.

At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held on April 21st I brought to the attention of the members your letter concerning the revised plans for the Naval Hospital to be built near Bethesda, Maryland, as also a set of the plans. The Commission regrets exceedingly the proposed erection of the high tower and reaffirms the opinion expressed in a letter of August 12, 1938, addressed to Admiral Rossiter, disapproving the plans for it. A copy of that letter is attached hereto.

Revised plans were not submitted by the Navy Department and thus this letter to you is rather of an unofficial nature; nevertheless, it strongly expresses the feelings of this Commission. The Commission of Fine Arts is interested in public buildings affecting the appearance of the National Capital, and we believe that the construction of this high tower (fully 250 feet) in an urban district of the metropolitan area of Washington is a dangerous precedent to establish. Furthermore the plans indicate that the tower will not be used for hospital purposes but for officers quarters.

The Commission of Fine Arts adheres to the principle that no building should overshadow the dome of the Capitol. To this end Congress in 1910 limited the height of buildings near the Capitol to 80 feet. The Commission of Fine Arts cooperates with the Zoning Commission in maintaining this principle of subordination, as also with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission in connection with public buildings in the metropolitan area of Washington. The new Public Health Service buildings just across the way from the Naval Hospital site are comparatively low and are of a type which should be adopted for the new Naval Hospital, at least so far as height of buildings is concerned.

The Commission has noted that you have brought this matter again to the attention of the President. We are certain that if given permission the architect, Dr. Cret could design a very satisfactory group of buildings for the Naval Hospital without the high tower.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. F. A. Delano, Chairman,
National Capital Park and Planning Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C-1

C O P Y

April 21, 1939.

Dear Mr. DiFalco:

The Commission of Fine Arts received the new submission for the Marconi Memorial at the meeting today and are pleased with the scheme as shown by the photographs of the sketch model. The feeling of the Commission is that the use of marble for the architectural as well as the portrait bust is a happy arrangement and would like to express the opinion that the surmounting figure may well be of bronze. The Commission feel that this bronze should be gilded.

The suggestion has been made that possibly the surmounting figure is slightly large in size, and the Commission would be interested in seeing the sphere on which the figure is mounted brought out a little more clearly in form.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Mr. S. Samuel DiFalco,
Secretary,
Marconi Memorial Foundation,
270 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

EXHIBIT D

C O P Y

April 24, 1939.

My dear Mr. Piccirilli:

I inclose a copy of the letter we have sent to the Marconi Memorial Foundation, giving approval of your revised sketch model for the Marconi Memorial.

We shall be glad to cooperate further with you in the development of this memorial project.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Mr. Attilio Piccirilli,
467 East 142nd Street,
New York, N. Y.

EXHIBIT D-1

C O P Y

May 5, 1939.

Dear Mr. Simon:

The Commission of Fine Arts approve the design you have submitted for alterations to the entrance steps of the Washington City Post Office, in connection with the widening of Massachusetts Avenue at that location.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Hon. Louis Simon,
Supervising Architect,
Procurement Division,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT E

C O P Y

April 24, 1939.

My dear Mr. McIntyre:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on April 21, 1939, gave consideration to the letter of March 21, addressed to the President by Boris Plenkovich and the photograph of his painting of Woodrow Wilson submitted therewith.

The matter had been referred by the Commission to Mr. Eugene Savage, painter member of the Commission, who reported as follows:

> In the matter of the offer of a portrait of President Wilson to the White House by Mr. Plenkovich, portraits cannot be added to the permanent collection of the White House except by Act of Congress, and subject to the approval of the Smithsonian Gallery of Art Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts.
>
> Considering that the official portrait of President Wilson has already been added to the White House collection it would not be possible to accept additions thereto under other circumstances. I do not believe that the work submitted would warrant any exception to the above provisions.

The Commission concurred in this report by Mr. Savage.

The correspondence is herewith returned.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Hon. Marvin H. McIntyre,
Secretary to the President,
The White House.

EXHIBIT F

C O P Y

May 2, 1939.

Mr. Marvin H. McIntyre,
Secretary to the President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

The collection of early American portraits and other subjects, about which Miss Inglis Griswold wrote the President, has been viewed by Mr. Manship, Sculptor, and Mr. Savage, Painter, for the Commission of Fine Arts.

The material making up the collection is of the highest importance to the American people, because of the persons represented and the eminence of the artists who accomplished the work. Names held of the highest consequence among the Founders of our country make the collection unique, in that it is not now the property of our Government as would almost invariably be the case in other countries.

The probability that the collection will shortly be broken and scattered is viewed by the Commission of Fine Arts with serious apprehension. The works are the property of an estate now in gradual liquidation and therefore must be sold at prevailing prices.

Among the paintings are portraits of (1) Washington, two by Peale, three by Stuart, one each by Trumbull, Pine, and Walston; (2) a Washington family group by Edward Savage; (3) Martha Washington by Jarvis; (4) Mary Ball Washington by Pine; (5) Mrs. Lawrence Washington (Great-Grandmother of Washington), one each by Hayes and Mytens; and (6) Rev. Lawrence Washington (Great-Grandfather of Washington) by H. VanDyck.

From the studies of the most important painters of their time are portraits of Lincoln, two of Franklin, three of Jefferson, Clay, Webster, and others.

The collection of portrait busts is also worthy of attention; while not so notable as the collection of painted portraits, a number are nevertheless outstanding and worthy of being acquired by the Government. The collection of portrait busts contains the following which the Commission consider notable:

(1) William Penn (in marble), a rather primitive work, but good, and worthy of a place in a collection of historical portraits of importance.

EXHIBIT G

(2) A very fine marble bust by Houdon of George Washington from the Craven collection, which the Commission consider an excellent piece of work; in fact it is very important and notable.

(3) The Caffaire marble bust of Benjamin Franklin.

(4) Houdon plaster busts of (2) Benjamin Franklin and (b) John Paul Jones are good, but, being in plaster don't have the importance that marble works have. There were evidently several plaster replicas made of these busts by Houdon and it is presumed are of his time.

A complete photographic record of the collection, which has been carefully reviewed by the Commission, is available for inspection by such authority as may be designated.

The Commission of Fine Arts will be pleased to act promptly in response to any request which you may deem appropriate in this matter, and respectfully suggest that it may be appropriate to refer the problem to the Joint Committee on Library of the Congress.

Most respectfully,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

GDC:MVL

cc: Members - Commission of Fine Arts.

C O P Y

April 24, 1939.

Dear Mr. Rowan:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on April 21, 1939, considered the mural designs by Mr. Edgar Britton, which you submitted with your letter of April 20, for two panels on the fourth floor in the new Interior Department Building.

The designs were brought to the particular attention of Mr. Eugene Savage and upon his recommendation the designs as revised in the larger studies were approved by the Commission. The color scheme as indicated in the original sketches also was considered satisfactory.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Mr. Edward B. Rowan,
Assistant Chief,
Section of Fine Arts,
Procurement Division,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT H

76TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5660

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 10, 1939

Mr. KELLER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia

A BILL

To include Lafayette Park within the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the height, exterior design, and construction of private and semipublic buildings in certain areas of the National Capital", approved May 16, 1930.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the second sentence of section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the height, exterior design, and construction of private and semipublic buildings in certain areas of the National Capital", approved May 16, 1930 (U. S. C., 1934 edition, title 40, sec. 121), is amended to read as follows: "To this end, hereafter when application is made

1 for permit for the erection or alteration of any building,
2 any portion of which is to front or abut upon the grounds
3 of the Capitol, the grounds of the White House, the por-
4 tion of Pennsylvania Avenue extending from the Capitol
5 to the White House, Lafayette Park, Rock Creek Park,
6 the Zoological Park, the Rock Creek and Potomac Park-
7 way, Potomac Park, The Mall Park System and public
8 buildings adjacent thereto, or abutting upon any street
9 bordering any of said grounds or parks, the plans therefor,
10 so far as they relate to height and appearance, color, and
11 texture of the materials of exterior construction, shall be
12 submitted by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia
13 to the Commission of Fine Arts; and the said Commission
14 shall report promptly to said Commissioners its recommenda-
15 tions, including such changes, if any, as in its judgment
16 are necessary to prevent reasonably avoidable impairment
17 of the public values belonging to such public building or
18 park; and said Commissioners shall take such action as
19 shall, in their judgment, effect reasonable compliance with
20 such recommendation: *Provided,* That if the said Commis-
21 sion of Fine Arts fails to report its approval or disapproval
22 of such plans within thirty days, its approval thereof shall
23 be assumed and a permit may be issued."

76TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5660

A BILL

To include Lafayette Park within the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the height, exterior design, and construction of private and semipublic buildings in certain areas of the National Capital", approved May 16, 1930.

By Mr. KELLER

APRIL 10, 1939

Referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia

C O P Y

April 26, 1939.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

The Commission of Fine Arts have been informed that effort is being made to use for commercial development the land lying between the north wall of Arlington National Cemetery and the Lee Boulevard, as indicated on the accompanying map. The Commission considered this matter very carefully at their meeting on April 21st and concurred in the recommendation of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission that the War Department acquire this area and make it a part of Arlington National Cemetery.

There is no more notable place in the National Capital than Arlington. Its wooded area on the Virginia hills gives beauty not only to the grounds but also to the landscape of the city. The Commission feel that it would be a serious encroachment on the sacred grounds of the Cemetery to allow the land in question to be used for commercial purposes, such as the construction of an apartment building that would dominate the area and be highly objectionable in this location. It would create a blot in the landscape that could be removed in the years to come, if ever, only at an enormous expense.

At the same time the Commission of Fine Arts feel that this area is needed for the enlargement of Arlington National Cemetery, and the Commission hope that this suggestion will commend itself to you.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. Harry H. Woodring,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT J

C O P Y

April 29, 1939.

Dear Senator Sheppard:

I wish to bring to the attention of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs the enclosed copy of a letter which the Commission of Fine Arts has sent to the Secretary of War recommending that the War Department purchase a tract of land of approximately 25 acres lying between the north wall of Arlington National Cemetery and the Lee Boulevard and make it a part of the Cemetery. The Commission has had this in mind a great many years and it has been discussed on frequent occasions with officials of the War Department as also with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

There is grave danger that unless the land in question is acquired by the Government it will be used for commercial purposes in the very near future. On the other hand, the land is needed for the Arlington National Cemetery. Also it forms the background and frame for the whole central composition of Washington at the end of the Mall.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,
(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. Morris Sheppard,
Chairman,
Committee on Military Affairs,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT J-1

C O P Y

Room 6137 North Interior Bldg.
Washington, D. C.
March 24, 1939.

Hon. Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman, Commission of Fine Arts,
College of Architecture,
Cornell University,
Ithaca, New York.

My dear Mr. Clarke:

I read your letter of March 13 and re-read it. I confess that I feel disappointed, and I do not think that the record of the Commission of Fine Arts is entirely satisfactory. I will concede in advance that there is no reason why people should not change their minds over a period of years, but I think it is still a moot question whether the Smithsonian National Museum building would not be a better looking building with the low additions, which have been worked out in some detail by Mr. Partridge, than as it is at present. In other words, I think it is an ugly building at present, but it would be a better looking and a far more useful building if the wings were added to it. On the other hand, you may truly say that this is none of my business because I have no authority to comment on the appearance of the building. What I want to point out is that an enabling act was passed and the promise of the extension was assured by the Speaker of the House, but we have now run into a time of rigid economy which may mean that we would get nothing at all, and this is the reason for my plea.

Perhaps the most fundamental reason of all is that a single large unit as big as this proposed building has got to be made efficient, and from the layout of the exhibition space which Mr. Partridge has indicated, it seems to me it is efficient. It will have a basement and three exhibition floors. The ground is very valuable, - let us say, worth in present valuation something like twenty dollars a square foot; the building lines are sufficiently restricted to give very ample planting space on the Constitution Avenue front, on the Mall side and on the two ends. At some future date there will be a building on the Smithsonian side of the Mall taking the place of the buildings which are there now; but these buildings will eventually connect or practically connect the Freer Gallery on the 12th Street end and cover just about as much on the south side of the Mall as we are proposing on the north side of the Mall. That part of the Mall between 7th and 9th Streets is reserved for a cross-axis between the Archives Building on the north and some future building on the south. The building which we are discussing between 9th and 12th Streets will not give the appearance

EXHIBIT K

of coverage in excess of either the Agriculture building between 12th and 14th Streets, or the new Mellon Gallery between 6th and 4th Streets.

I hope very much on this account you will be willing to reconsider your attitude.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Frederic A. Delano,
Chairman.

C O P Y

March 28, 1939.

Hon. Frederic A. Delano, Chairman
National Capital Park and
Planning Commission
Room 6137 North Interior Building
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Delano:

In connection with the matter concerning the proposed addition to the Smithsonian Museum, it seems to me that it would be wise if you would meet with the Commission of Fine Arts at the time of their next meeting on Friday, April 21. It happens that this is the time of the meeting of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, I think. Nevertheless I wonder if you could not arrange to come into our meeting for a short time so that you could take up the problem concerning the Smithsonian Museum with all of the members of the Commission.

I sincerely trust that this suggestion will meet with your approval.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

GDC:R

EXHIBIT K-1

C O P Y

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
Washington

November 26, 1938.

Dear Dr. Wetmore:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on November 18th, 1938, considered the proposal to construct additions to the east and west ends of the Natural History Building along the Mall. Following an inspection of the site and the existing building and after having given the proposed plans for extension careful attention, the Commission respectfully urges your consideration of a different scheme for housing the growing collections.

The Natural History Building was built many years ago as a self-contained unit in the style of museum buildings in vogue at the beginning of this century. In the considered judgment of the Commission, additions to the east and west ends of the present structure, which of necessity would have to conform to the style of the old building, would create a structure altogether too large in mass for the Mall. Further, these proposed additions would result in causing the existing architectural elements, in particular the central composition of the building, including the dome, to become completely out of scale. The original structure was not designed in a manner to permit of extensive additions.

The Commission of Fine Arts realize the needs of the Smithsonian Institution for additional museum space. They therefore suggest the erection of a building in the square on the North side of the Mall, between Twelfth and Fourteenth Streets, constructed in two sections above the first story on Constitution Avenue in such a manner as to retain the view from the Mall of the central portico of the Labor Department Building.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,
Assistant Secretary,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D. C.

C O P Y

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
Washington

March 13, 1939.

Hon. Frederic A. Delano
North Interior Building
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Delano:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on March 9 gave further and careful consideration to the proposal to construct additions to the east and west ends of the Natural History Building along the Mall.

The Commission realizes that in 1931 Dr. Wetmore, representing the Smithsonian I stitution, presented somewhat similar plans to the Commission which were approved. No member of the Commission as it is presently constituted, with the exception of Mr. Moore who is absent and in the State of Washington, was on the Commission at that time. It means, therefore, that the action taken at our meeting November 18, 1938, in which the Commission disapproved of additions to the Natural History Building, was a reversal of the action previously taken. In view of this fact, especially careful consideration was given to your request that the matter of additions to the building be reconsidered.

The Commission reviewed all of the memoranda and correspondence with respect to this problem and were particularly interested in a memorandum prepared by William T. Partridge, Consulting Architect to the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and presented at a meeting of the Commission held October 21, 1938. In that report, a copy of which I attach, Mr. Partridge adequately expresses the opinion of the Commission of Fine Arts concerning the addition of wings to the Museum Building. I quote one paragraph which I think more adequately expresses the way the Commission of Fine Arts concerning this problem than my letter to Dr. Wetmore dated November 26, a copy of which I also attach.

> "While the relation of the building to the cross streets and to the lines of the new National Gallery to the east is important, the architectural treatment of the Mall facade is equally or even more vital. The additions bring the total length of the building to nearly a thousand feet, and the juncture of the new wings with the present building can be but slightly marked as they must project beyond the building line. This means that the horizontal lines must be continuous, and therefore the entrance portion and dome, now in proper scale with the size of the original building, will be woefully insufficient for a structure nearly twice the length."

I have seen the models which Mr. Partridge prepared, and these, together with the plans which you so kindly permitted me to take, serve to reinforce the Commission's previous action that "these proposed additions would result in causing the existing architectural elements, in

particular the central composition of the building, including the dome, to become completely out of scale. The original structure was not designed in a manner to permit of extensive additions."

The Commission realize that the action taken may result in considerable inconvenience to the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. They realize, nevertheless, that a more adequate solution for the expansion of the Natural History Building will result in a very much more satisfactory arrangement, which, the Regents themselves will agree, is, in the last analysis, the most satisfactory solution to this problem. The Commission of Fine Arts stand ready to assist in every way possible to bring about what they consider to be a more appropriate and more adequate extension of the Natural History Museum's facilities, by constructing an entirely new building on the square west of the present building between 12th and 14th Streets.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Enclosures.

APPENDIX C
October 21, 1938
Meeting

NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Report on Building Lines for Extension
of Bureau of Natural History

By William T. Partridge, Consulting Architect

October 21, 1938.

The enlargement of the Natural History Museum has again been brought up for consideration. There are certain basic facts and architectural principles which should be kept in mind in arriving at any decision in the matter.

The most important point is to realize that this building is part of the Mall composition and its relationship to the Triangle group across Constitution Avenue is but secondary.

The Mall or Public Walk of L'Enfant is shown on his plan as a broad roadway bordered with gardens. Along the north and south boundaries of the spacious reservation is indicated a continuous row of buildings broken only by the many cross streets.

In Mr. Mckim's 1901 adaptation of the L'Enfant design, there was no central roadway but a "tapis vert". The composition was framed by two wide plantations of elms, the distance between them being very much less than between the continuous architectural borders of L'Enfant.

Mr. McKim's architectural features of the Mall were placed between the bordering elms and the present Avenues, Constitution and Independence.

His conception of the Mall group was a series of small buildings which would not compete in scale with the Capitol or Monument. They were to be so spaced that the cross street intersections would not form a gap in the rythm of white buildings and separations of green foliage. The cross streets were a necessity, and to reduce the width of the necessary opening, some of the adjoining buildings were shown located close to the cross street curb, and in the squares where there were more than one building, the interim space between them was excessive, if one considered the layout of the single square. At the cross axis of the Mall at 8th Street, the buildings were shown equa-distant from the north-south center line.

The first structure built under the 1901 plan was the Department of Agriculture. The next was the Museum of Natural History. The size

of this building was so much greater than anything contemplated on the 1901 plan that it wrecked Mr. McKim's sequence of buildings and planting before it even started. Moreover, it introduced an increased scale in the size of the bordering buildings which today endangers the supremacy of the Capitol and Monument - at least until the maturing of the elms forms a mask.

From time to time proposals for the enlargement of this Museum have been advanced, each proposal planning a greater occupancy of the site. Today in place of the three buildings originally proposed, we are to have a single one nearly a thousand feet long, 250 feet longer than the Capitol.

The main east-west building lines were established as one hundred feet from the outside curb of Madison and Jefferson Drives. This dimension was arrived at only after a careful study in plan and on the site. If this set-back was then thought sufficient for the proposed small buildings, it is certainly not sufficient for a facade 980 feet long.

On the south side of the Mall, the shallow building area available will prevent the erection of any particularly long buildings, so we may see in the future some of Mr. McKim's architectural border scheme. The elevation of this building, together with the proposed additions, is so dependent upon its plan and mass, that we would suggest a further study of the architectural treatment of this unusually long facade.

While the relation of the building to the cross streets and to the lines of the new National Gallery to the east is important, the architectural treatment of the Mall facade is equally or even more vital. The additions bring the total length of the building to nearly a thousand feet, and the juncture of the new wings with the present building can be but slightly marked as they must project beyond the building line. This means that the horizontal lines must be continuous, and therefore the entrance portion and dome, now in proper scale with the size of the original building, will be woefully insufficient for a structure nearly twice the length.

The National Gallery of Art, the design of which seems inspired in mass at least by Mr. McKim's Union Square buildings (See page 41, 1901 Report) is a long building, but its length is broken by two strongly marked projecting wings and by a large central pediment. These motives facing south will cast strong shadows which, combined with the court planting, will produce much the effect sought by Mr. McKim, an alternation of light and shade.

The Madison Drive being narrow and the sidewalk only on the north, it will be difficult to obtain a satisfactory full view of either building from directly in front - so the design of the Mall facade of the Museum should be considered from a diagonal point of view, and a

a sharp one at that. Considerable study with sketches and models had led us to conclude that many of the defects arising from this extensive addition can be modified by the opening of two deep courts, where the additions join the main building. The monotony of the facade will be broken up by strong shadows. The scale of the central feature will remain unchanged.

C O P Y

April 24, 1939.

Dear Mr. Simon:

At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held on April 21, 1939, the Commission approved a sketch submitted by James E. Fraser, sculptor, for the pedestal of the Albert Gallatin statue, to be located on the north side of the Treasury Department Building. The Commission also approved the proposed inscription.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Hon. Louis A. Simon,
Supervising Architect,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT L

C O P Y

May 13, 1939.

My dear Mr. Simon:

Supplementing our letter of April 24, 1939, approving the sketch and inscription for the Albert Gallatin Statue, I wish to inform you that we brought a copy of the inscription to the attention of Mr. Moore, who has advised that Albert Gallatin was a Senator and Representative in Congress and that this fact should be included in the inscription. The matter of this amendment was then taken up with Mr. Fraser, who has agreed to it and to certain other minor changes. The inscription now reads:

ALBERT GALLATIN
1761-1849
SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
GENIUS OF FINANCE
SENATOR AND REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS
COMMISSIONER FOR THE TREATY OF GHENT
MINISTER TO FRANCE AND GREAT BRITAIN
AND STEADFAST
CHAMPION OF DEMOCRACY

The Commission of Fine Arts approve the inscription as above indicated.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Hon. Louis A. Simon,
Supervising Architect,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT L-1

The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, The Commission of Fine Arts, and Miss Katharine N. Rhoades, as provided in Paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles L. Freer, have examined the following objects:

2 Blades inlaid with turquoise,
Chinese, Shang dynasty.

1 Bronze ceremonial vessel inlaid
with gold, Chinese, 5th-3rd century, B. C.,

which have been recommended for purchase for the Freer Gallery of Art by Mr. John E. Lodge, Director, and hereby approve the purchase.

February 1st, 1939. C. G. Abbot
For the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution

April 21st, 1939. For the Commission of Fine Arts.

February 3rd, 1939. Katharine N. Rhoades.

EXHIBIT M

The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, The Commission of Fine Arts, and Miss Katharine N. Rhoades, as provided in Paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles L. Freer, have examined the following objects:

1 Carved pottery jar from An-yang, Chinese, Shang dynasty.

1 Painting attributed to Wen Cheng-ming (dated 1536), Chinese, Ming dynasty.

1 Painting of Tartar Horsemen, Chinese, Yuan dynasty.

2 Illuminated pages from a palm leaf manuscript, Indian,

which have been recommended for purchase for the Freer Gallery of Art by Mr. John E. Lodge, Director, and hereby approve the purchase.

For the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

April 21st, 1939

For the Commission of Fine Arts.

Katharine N. Rhoades.

At this point, the Chairman and members of the Commission of Fine Arts joined the meeting.

In addition to the members of the Commission of Fine Arts, the following also were present:

Procurement Division

Mr. W. A. Reynolds, Mr. H. L. Cheney, Mr. W. C. Clarke

U. S. Engineer Office

Col. R. S. Thomas, Mr. E. A. Schmitt, Mr. E. J. Merrick

Civil Aeronautics Authority

Mr. Robert H. Hinckley, Chairman, Col. Sumpter Smith, Maj. A. B. McMullen, Technical Advisory Committee, Mr. W. A. Willauer, Mr. H. H. Houk, Mr. Thomas G. Early, Mr. C. S. Guthrie, General Counsel.

Public Works Administration

Mr. F. E. Schnepfe, Mr. H. P. Hevenor

Works Progress Administration

Mr. H. Fisher

47. Mt. Vernon Highway Relocation;
Gravelly Point Airport:

MR. NOLEN, in reviewing this matter, stated that at the last meeting the Commission requested further study be made of this matter, and it was referred to a special committee. This Special Committee held a meeting on April 7, 1939, and the minutes of that meeting are attached as APPENDIX C. It was evident that the desire to locate the road beyond the Bureau of Public Roads buildings was due to three reasons - 1 - Feeling on the part of the Civil Aeronautics Authority that they should have more room adjacent to the airport; that the Mt. Vernon Highway would be restricted on that space, and that the parking area would be reduced from a capacity of 8,000 cars to 4,000 cars; 2, that if the Mt. Vernon Highway were located back of the Bureau of Public Roads buildings on the west location, it would permit the Authority to obtain a great deal of dry fill material needed for the airport; 3, That the Civil Aeronautics Authority desired to locate their buildings as shown on the plan now before the Commission, in that more room is provided.

MR. REYNOLDS of the Procurement Division submitted the latest plan, as developed by the Procurement Division.

COL. SMITH explained the details of the plan submitted by the Procurement Division, and pointed out that the buildings are being kept close together to avoid interference with the runways. There are no objections to trees in this area, provided they are not too high.

MR. REYNOLDS also explained the details of this plan, and stated that the R. F. and P. Railroad Company pointed out that they could reduce the elevation of the spur tracks crossing about 10 feet; that the plan as now developed would leave certain areas open for all time, and will provide a vista to Washington from the Highway.

Discussion included the suggestion of MR. W. A. DELANO of increasing the curve of the roadway in front of the airport buildings to give it a better sweep; suggestion of considering changes in the details of the plan where the most southerly runway comes nearest the roadway, and that the safety features of this connection should be thoroughly studied; suggestion of extending the most southerly runway over the roadway, which would be in an underpass; that while the westerly end of the most southerly runway is very close to the roadway, the runway is of sufficient length to afford safety for planes coming in or taking off.

MOTION unanimously carried by both Commissions that the west line for relocation of the Mt. Vernon Highway, as shown on plan bearing File No. 102.5-96, be approved by the Commissions, subject to an understood agreement that final detailed plans will have to be submitted to the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts for approval.

MR. HINCKLEY, new Chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Authority, was introduced to the Commission by COL. SMITH.

In regard to the safety conditions at the point where the most southerly runway adjoins the road, MAJ. McMULLEN, Safety Engineer of the Civil Aeronautics Authority, stated - "If it became necessary to establish safety requirements for this, it could be done two ways, either by extending the runway over the Highway itself, or by the construction of a tunnel, which might be feasible. That would also increase the effective length of the runway. The other way it might be handled would be to raise the runway height by filling 6 to 8 feet. Planes could take off much faster if the runway is longer. This runway was designed at a much greater length than is absolutely necessary for take off, in order to provide maximum safety, although it should be as long as possible on this account."

It was further agreed by the two Commissions that the point where the west end of the south runway adjoins the roadway, it should be so planned that eventually the runway could overpass the highway in case safety requirements so dictated, and the grade should be so adjusted that it would not be necessary to lower the parkway road to any great extent to accomplish this; that the width of the right of way should be 400 feet, and that the details of this plan should be submitted to a committee of both Commissions for approval so as not to delay final execution of the plans.

48. Central Library Building in Municipal Center Area:

MR. WYETH, Municipal Architect, and DR. BOWERMAN, Public Librarian, present for discussion of this subject.

MR. WYETH stated that he would like to have an answer as to the question of the facade along Pennsylvania Avenue. Their plans now show it following the line of Pennsylvania Avenue as determined some time ago, and in relation to the buildings occupying the entire block. The new plans for the library have been prepared to carry the building out to the same line as the buildings on the square west of this property.

MR. NOLEN pointed out that there are only two blocks of property between Constitution Avenue and 7th Street to carry the north line of Pennsylvania Avenue without interruption.

MR. PARTRIDGE pointed out that if the building is set back, it will allow sufficient space for planting around the building, but if it is extended out to the line of Pennsylvania Avenue for its entire length, there will only be 26 feet of space, all sidewalk.

Discussion included cutting back the southwest corner of the building; the C Street setback for the building.

MOTION unanimously carried by the two Commissions favoring the plan of having a central motif to the building, which would be set back 26 feet from the curb; that the end wings of the buildings could be set back slightly more, and that the dimensions from the curb to these end wings would be determined by further study by the architect.

DR. BOWERMAN stated that while the library authorities are delighted with the prospect of obtaining a new building, he desired to point out that the revised plans will add to the cost of the building.

The Chairman also stated that although the library authorities will only use the central part of the block, the Municipal Architect has been asked to design a building to occupy the whole of the area in order to give symmetry to the Municipal Center group.

49. Open-air Garage at 6th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.:

MR. NOLEN reported that application has been received by the Board of Zoning Adjustment to erect a combination service station and open-air garage on the square west of the proposed library building between 6th and 7th Streets, and extending through from Pennsylvania Avenue to C Street.

Discussion included the question of whether, if the Commission were to recommend rejection of this application, private property owners along the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue might interpret this action to mean that the Government ultimately intends to acquire this property, and in that case, it would be likely to have a detrimental effect on the general character of the buildings; whether the Commission and the Government is ready to say that there shall be no new buildings erected on this square, and thus create the impression that it will be bought for park purposes; that there might be no objections to constructing open-air garages on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue, provided they are properly designed; that there apparently are objections to entrance driveways crossing the sidewalks of Pennsylvania Avenue; feeling on the part of some property owners that the Government is interested in acquiring the properties on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue; that any design for this building will be subject to the approval of the Commission of Fine Arts under the Shipstead Act; that Pennsylvania Avenue is now a one-sided business street, and the question of whether as such it will ever become important as such; recent proposal to construct an 8-story office building on this property, to be leased by the Government for a number of years; the question of whether the Government could require that entrance to the open-air garage should be from C Street instead of Pennsylvania Avenue; general feeling that it would be a mistake to permit construction of a number of open-air garages on the north side of the Avenue; the possibility of limiting the driveway crossings over the sidewalk of Pennsylvania Avenue to one point.

MOTION unanimously carried that the Commission approves the application to erect an open-air garage with service station facilities at Pennsylvania Avenue and 6th Street, N.W., providing that the appearance and design of the building must be satisfactory to the Commission of Fine Arts; that the building must be so designed that a 20-foot setback can be provided by removing part of the building when C Street is widened; that there shall be no entrances or exits across the Pennsylvania Avenue sidewalk.

50. <u>Development of North Side of Pennsylvania Avenue:</u>

MR. NOLEN stated that it is important for the Commission to consider whether the Government will ever acquire the property on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue facing the Triangle. It is the feeling of the Chairman that it would be very difficult to ever obtain an appropriation for this purpose.

Discussion included the fact that the completion of the Municipal Center will affect the development of the property to the west; the question of whether Pennsylvania Avenue on the north side will ever be a good business street.

MOTION unanimously carried that the Commission expresses the following opinion: that the Commission has no plans for future Government use of the ground on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue between the Municipal Center and the Treasury, and that in the opinion of the Commission, there is no future need for the Government acquiring this property.

51. Architectural Standards - East Capitol Street Armowy and Sports Center:

The Commission discussed the question of the architectural standards to be adopted for the sports center buildings at the end of East Capitol Street; the question of whether buildings of monumental character should be designed or more in keeping with the surrounding area, and use to be made of the buildings.

Discussion included the fact that one of the items that will increase the cost of the building is the unduly large capacity; that the buildings should be of simple steel frame construction, so designed as to present good lines and of good appearance.

The Chairman also expressed the feeling that to talk about designing a building for a capacity of 15,000 or 20,000 might kill the project by running up the cost.

Members of the Commission of Fine Arts felt that a well-designed brick building would be satisfactory, or a building with brick veneer; that if a structure of marble or other stone finish is erected, it will detract from other Government buildings in the city.

MOTION unanimously carried by the two Commissions that they would look with favor on a building faced with brick - an economical but well designed structure built or faced with brick.

In connection with the armory, COL. McCOACH asked the Chairman whether he felt a capacity of 20,000 was too large, and the Chairman replied that he felt it was, and that the capacity materially affects the cost of the building. He also feels that demands for a very large building will kill the project.

MR. NICHOLS suggested that a study be undertaken to determine whether a building with a capacity as large as 15,000 is actually needed.

MOTION unanimously carried that it is the opinion of the Commission that the armory should be designed primarily to meet the needs for drill purposes and kindred uses, with a moderate sized or reasonably small seating capacity, and if possible the building should be so designed that it could be enlarged in the future if necessity develops.

52. Freedman's Hospital Annex:

This matter was up for consideration at the last meeting and the plans approved. The plans have been revised to provide for a nurses' home in addition to the buildings previously approved, and the staff sees no objections to the location shown. A 20-foot setback will be provided, and the building will be architecturally in harmony with the main annex.

MOTION unanimously carried that the Commission approves the revised plans, including nurses' home, for the extension of Freedman's Hospital (File No. 27-69).

The Commission of Fine Arts withdrew at this point.

ADOLPH ALEXANDER WEINMAN
234 GREENWAY SOUTH
FOREST HILLS, LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
VARD 8-4352

May 22. 1939.

RECEIVED
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
MAY 25 1939
NOTED

Mr. H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Caemmerer:

I am very much pleased to learn from your letter of May 19th that the Treasury Department has acted favorably in the matter of the site selected for the Oscar S. Straus Memorial in the Great Plaza along Fourteenth Street. This matter has been pending since 1931 and it is good to know there is some action now towards a real start.

I have some time last year made new sketch models along the same general lines but somewhat greater elaboration as those previously approved by Mr. Pope and I am now having these cast in plaster. I shall then make a slight change in one sketch, after which I shall have them photographed and shall send prints to you for the Commission's consideration at its meeting on June 9th.

If the sketches have the Commission's approval, and the necessary arrangements are made with the Straus Memorial Commission, I can proceed at once with the intermediate, or working model, at a scale three times the size of the sketch model and when these are approved, I shall make a one half full size model for each group, for the carving. At present white Georgia Marble is being considered for the groups.

As the Committee is rather disturbed about the cost of the sculpture in that material or granite which, of course is still higher, I am also getting estimates on executing the groups in bronze and it may be necessary to consider limestone. The increase of the cost of labor is an important item in this matter, as carvers wages in Washington have increased from $11.00 to $15.50 per day. I do not believe the Committee are aware of that fact.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

A. A. Weinman

EXHIBIT K

C O P Y

June 12, 1939.

My dear Mr. Weinman:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on June 9, 1939, approved the sketch models for the statuary on the Oscar Straus Memorial Fountain, in accordance with the photographs which you submitted with your letter of recent date.

The Commission advise that the statues should be executed in marble, because the quality of the modeling is too fine for granite. The Commission disapprove the use of limestone and also the use of bronze for this statuary in the Great Plaza along Fourteenth Street.

Authority for erecting the fountain has not as yet been granted, but we are confidently expecting that this question will be settled by the time Congress adjourns this Session.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Mr. A. A. Weinman,
234 Greenway South,
Forest Hills, Long Island,
New York.

EXHIBIT K-1

PUBLIC RESOLUTION - NO. 100 - 70TH CONGRESS
H. J. Res. 377

Joint Resolution Authorizing the erection ou public grounds in the District of Columbia of a memorial to Oscar S. Straus.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital, be, and he hereby is, authorized and directed to select a suitable site and to grant permission to any association or associations organized within two years from the date of the approval of this resolution for that purpose, to erect as a gift to the people of the United States, on public grounds of the United States in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, a monument or memorial in memory of Oscar S. Straus: Provided, That the site chosen and the design of the monument or memorial shall be erected under the supervision of the Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital and that the United States shall be put to no expense in or by the erection of said monument or memorial.

Approved, March 2, 1929.

JUSTIFICATION

GREAT PLAZA DEVELOPMENT, TRIANGLE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Commission of Fine Arts in letters dated November 26 and December 10, 1938, and May 16, 1939, copies attached, requested the Procurement Division to take the necessary steps to obtain funds for the preliminary rough grading of a portion of the Great Plaza along Fourteenth Street opposite the Department of Commerce Building, in order to permit work to proceed as soon as possible on the proposed Oscar S. Straus Memorial Fountain. The Commission of Fine Arts has advised that the Oscar S. Straus Memorial Association is ready to spend approximately $200,000 on the Memorial, which is to be a large fountain appropriately designed for the Great Plaza.

The estimate in the amount of $14,500 contemplates rough grading an area of approximately 214 feet on Fourteenth Street by 138 feet in depth. This area is to be depressed approximately 5 feet below the level of the surrounding plaza.

The work to be performed under this estimate is considered necessary to receive the Oscar S. Straus Memorial and is work which would have to be done when the general development of the entire Great Plaza, as now planned, is undertaken.

Of the total area of 280,000 square feet, 32,000 square feet will be lost for the parking of automobiles which represents lost revenue of approximately $3,000 per year.

Following is a breakdown estimate of the work contemplated:

Grading, removal of trees, etc.	$ 7,800
Drains and catch basins	2,600
Sidewalk and repairs to curb	3,000
Contingencies	500
Drawings & specifications, supervision and other expenses.....	600
Total estimated cost	$ 14,500

EXHIBIT K-2

C O P Y

June 12, 1939.

Dear Mr. Rowan:

The color sketches by four American Indians for proposed mural decorations in the recreation room of the new Interior Department Building submitted with your letter of June 7, were brought to the attention of Mr. Eugene Savage, painter member of the Commission.

The Commission were highly pleased with the sketches and on the recommendation of Mr. Savage approved them. The Commission wish to congratulate the artists on their work.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Mr. Edward B. Rowan,
Assistant Chief,
Section of Painting and
Sculpture,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT L

June 12, 1939.

My dear Congressman Brewster:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on June 9, 1939, considered your Joint Resolution 260, which you introduced on April 6, 1939, authorizing the removal of the Statue of John Marshall from its present site on the Capitol Grounds to a new site on the Supreme Court Building Grounds.

The Commission respectfully advise that they would approve the relocation of the Statue of John Marshall on the Supreme Court Building Grounds if it were to be replaced by an adequate statue of George Washington on the west terrace of the Capitol Grounds.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Hon. Ralph O. Brewster,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT M

The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, The Commission of Fine Arts, and Miss Katharine N. Rhoades, as provided in Paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles L. Freer, have examined the following objects:

1 bronze bell, Chinese, late Chou dynasty (480-230 B. C.).

1 bronze ceremonial vessel of the type kuang, Chinese, early Chou dynasty (1122-771 B. C.).

1 dagger, Persian, 18th century.

1 cut steel inscription, Persian, 16th century.

1 illuminated manuscript, Persian, 16th century.

1 illuminated Jaina manuscript, Indian, 15th century,

which have been recommended for purchase for the Freer Gallery of Art by Mr. John E. Lodge, Director, and hereby approve the purchase.

For the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution

For the Commission of Fine Arts

June 9th, 1939.

Katharine N. Rhoades

EXHIBIT N

United States
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
National Park Service
Washington

May 16, 1939.

Memorandum of Requirements Suggested for the Proposed

Spanish American War Memorial at Tampa, Florida.

The memorial will consist of one building which sole function is that of a museum.

It is suggested the building be rectangular in form, and built around an open court. The court yard to contain the larger exhibit pieces.

At the present time it is not known what material will be available for exhibit purposes, nor is the exact theme of the exhibit completely crystallized. Therefore, it will be necessary that the exhibit rooms be constructed to permit as much flexibility as possible, and it is suggested that the planning group include immediately a museum curator to make a study of the possible exhibit material and the theme of the general exhibit, in order that by the time the building is ready for the construction of the interior, the exhibit plan will have taken definite form to make a detailed subdivision of the exhibit rooms.

It is generally accepted that a 25 ft. width is a good workable standard for the exhibit galleries. At this time it is roughly estimated that approximately 8,000 square ft. of exhibit space will be required. A 25 ft. width capable of being divided into galleries to suit the museum needs as later determined.

No windows are necessary in the exhibit rooms as all exhibits will be artificially lighted. The exhibit space should be planned to permit continuous circulation in one direction through the entire exhibit. An arcade feature around the court yard with an entrance to several of the exhibit rooms is suggested. This will permit a visitor to take whatever length of trip he desires, and will not be obliged to make the entire circuit.

The memorial features are to be developed in the lobby and court rather than in the exhibit rooms which will be devoted exclusively to a graphic presentation of the story of the Spanish American War.

It is suggested that the State memorials be incorporated into the building either as some element within the building design, or as a unit in the exhibit.

Administrative offices should be provided consisting of reception room, check room, curator's office, clerical office, guide's room, and public lavatories. The service units would be preparator's work rooms, (approximately 20 ft. x 25 ft.), large service elevator from preparator's space to exhibit floor level, storage space about equal volume to exhibit space, janitor's domitories, grounds keeper facilities, storage for lawn mowers, and other equipment, storage space for 3 or 4 cars. These last two items may be included in the main building, or as a detached unit. Doorways through the entire building, except individual offices, should be sufficient to permit clearing of large exhibits.

General Scheme.

It is suggested that the general scheme be studied with the objective in mind of making the most of the views over Hillsboro Bay from west to southeast.

That general circulation so move the visitor through the area with dominating attraction focused on the one Museum Building..the Cuban Memorial and the Waterfront.

It is suggested that the general scheme be plugged or not open between Northwest and Northeast, to avoid as far as possible any encroachment by development of the private property north of the Canal.

Access to Development.

1. Main access be recognized over West Davis Boulevard, and that connections to Airport be well considered in location of main motor approach.

2. Minor access by water might well be considered.

Parking.

It is suggested that permanent facilities provide for about 100 cars, with flexible overflow parking to be used in case of celebrations, etc.

Service and Maintenance.

1. Memorial Building

Heavy trucks will have to have service access to the building for handling of exhibit material, furniture, etc.

Service and Maintenance Equipment for Operation of Building and Grounds.

1. Storage for 2 trucks (light).

2. Storage space for two cars.

3. Storage space for two tractors.

4. Storage space for two tractor manipulated mowers.

5. Storage space for two rollers manipulated by tractors.

6. Miscellaneous equipment for small power mowers, rakes, shovels, etc.

Thos. C. Vint
Chief of Planning.

cc Mr. M. Leo Elliott
Dr. Russell, atten: Mr. Burns
Mr. Lee

TCV:EMH

C O P Y

June 12, 1939.

Dear Mr. Demaray:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on June 9, 1939, considered the photograph of a model by Jeno Juzsko, submitted by your office, for the General Whipple Memorial, to be erected on a battlefield at Fredericksburg, Virginia. The Commission disapproved the model.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Mr. A. E. Demaray,
Acting Director,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT I

C O P Y

June 12, 1939.

Dear Mr. Demaray:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on June 9, 1939, discussed with Mr. Fraser and Mr. Friedlander the question of completing their groups of statues for the Arlington Memorial Bridge and the Rock Creek Parkway entrance. After careful consideration, the Commission expressed its preference for the use of marble, but urged that an agreement be reached with your office so that these four equestrian statues may be completed with the fund available. They are needed for the Arlington Memorial Bridge composition and the amount of money at hand is not any too large; in fact the sculptors are afraid they will have to practically donate their services. However, they would like to see the statues completed and will make every effort to secure acceptable bids for the work. Your cooperation in this matter will be appreciated.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Mr. A. E. Demaray,
Acting Director,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT J

[PUBLIC—NO. 287—74TH CONGRESS]

[S. 2426]

AN ACT

To provide for the creation of a memorial park at Tampa, in the State of Florida, to be known as "The Spanish War Memorial Park", and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That when title to such lands located on Davis Island in the city of Tampa, Florida, as shall be designated by the Secretary of the Interior, in the exercise of his judgment and discretion as necessary and suitable for the purpose, shall have been vested in the United States, said area shall be set apart as The Spanish War Memorial Park, for the benefit and inspiration of the people: *Provided*, That said lands shall be donated without cost to the United States by the city of Tampa, Florida, and the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to accept such conveyance of lands.

SEC. 2. That there is hereby authorized to be located and constructed within said memorial park a suitable monument or memorial to commemorate the patriotic services of the American forces in the War with Spain. The cost of establishing such monument or memorial, of constructing suitable side walks and approaches, and of landscaping such site, may be paid from any fund or moneys available for such purpose, except from the general fund of the Treasury; and the Secretary is for that purpose further authorized and empowered to determine upon a suitable location, plan, and design for said monument or memorial, by and with the advice of the National Commission of Fine Arts.

SEC. 3. In the discharge of his duties hereunder, the Secretary of the Interior, through the National Park Service, is authorized to employ, in his discretion, by contract or otherwise, landscape architects, architects, artists, engineers, and/or other expert consultants in accordance with the usual customs of the several professions without reference to civil-service requirements or to the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, and that expenditures for such employment shall be construed to be included in any appropriations hereafter authorized for any work under the objectives of this Act.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of the Interior is further authorized, by and with the advice of the National Commission of Fine Arts, to authorize and permit the erection in said memorial park of suitable memorials in harmony with the monument and/or memorial herein authorized that may be desired to be constructed by Spanish War organizations, States, and/or foreign governments: *Provided*, That the design and location of such memorials must be approved by the Secretary of the Interior, by and with the advice of the National Commission of Fine Arts, before construction is undertaken.

SEC. 5. The administration, protection, and development of the aforesaid Spanish War Memorial Park, including any and all memorials that may hereafter be erected thereon, shall be exercised under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior by the National Park Service.

Approved, August 20, 1935.

EXHIBIT H-1

C O P Y

June 12, 1939.

Dear Mr. Demaray:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on June 9, 1939, considered your memorandum of June 6, with its inclosure of a copy of correspondence concerning the completion of the Navy and Marine Memorial on Columbia Island. The Commission took note of the fact that the recent Act of Congress on the subject allows only $50,616 for the completion of the work but also noted from your memorandum that this amount will be sufficient to complete the base of the memorial provided Virginia Greenstone is used and certain changes are made in the architectural design.

Therefore the Commission approve the use of Virginia Greenstone for the base of the Navy and Marine Memorial with changes in the architect's design, as indicated in your memorandum.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Mr. A. E. Demaray,
Acting Director,
National Park Service,
Interior Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT G-1

United States
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
National Park Service
Washington

May 18, 1939.

Memorandum for Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary, Fine Arts Commission

There is attached herewith a copy of a memorandum of requirements suggested for the proposed Spanish American War Memorial at Tampa, Florida.

Mr. M. Leo Elliott, who has been selected as the architect for this project, collaborated in the preparation of the attached memorandum and planned, if possible to have sketch plans prepared for the consideration of the Fine Arts Commission at their next meeting, which I understand is Friday, June 9.

At this time I am not able to determine whether or not Mr. Elliott will have plans in shape to present at the next meeting of the Commission.

Thos. C. Vint,

Chief of Planning.

Enclosure 1935670

EXHIBIT H

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

June 6, 1939

MEMORANDUM for Commission of Fine Arts:

Reference is made to the Act of Congress approved April 26, 1939, authorizing an appropriation of $100,000 for the completion of the Navy-Marine Memorial on Columbia Island, Washington, D. C.

This act provides that the Architect and the Sculptor for the Memorial, together shall be paid $49,384 of the $100,000 authorized. This will leave $50,616 for the construction work involved.

The original plans and specifications provided that the material for the steps and platform was to be Conway Green Granite and of a detail design which would be very costly to execute. The balance available for the work will not be sufficient to carry out the original design with the materials specified.

In an effort to determine what could be done with the available money, the architect was requested to approve certain changes in detail which would reduce the cost, and the Act of Congress provided that any suitable stone could be used. The architect approved two of the changes recommended, namely, the construction of the steps in two pieces, and the change in the width of the steps, but thought the nosing on the step should be retained.

An estimate (copy accompanying) was prepared for the completion of the Memorial using Virginia Green Stone with the changes in design recommended as per copy of letter to the architect. It will be noted that with all the changes and with the substitution of the Green Stone, the money available will just be sufficient for the work provided satisfactory bids can be obtained.

A. E. Demaray
Acting Director.

Encl. #1914019

EXHIBIT G

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

May 19, 1939

Memorandum for Mr. Demaray:

In compliance with telephone request from Mr. Finnan before he left the city, we are submitting the following estimate covering the cost of completing the stone base of the Navy-Marine Memorial:

4,000	lineal feet of steps	@ 6.75	$27,000
5,000	square feet of platform	3.75	18,750
160	cubic yards of concrete fill	10.00	1,600
	Engineering design and supervision		3,266
	Total - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		$50,616

This estimate is based on the use of Virginia Greenstone in place of the Conway Green Granite originally specified for the work. The Congressional Act approved April 26, 1939, provided for the authorization of an expenditure of $100,000 to complete the Memorial but stipulated that $5,000 would be architectural fees and $44,384 for the sculptor. This leaves only $50,616 for the construction work involved, but not sufficient for the work in Green Granite.

Chief of Engineering.

FFG:rh

cc - Mr. Frick
Mr. Gartside
Mr. Gillen
Mr. Horne
✓Mr. Caemmerer - Fine Arts Commission

C O P Y

CORBETT and MacMURRAY
Architects
130 West 42nd Street
Bush Building
New York

May 22, 1939

Mr. A. E. Demaray, Acting Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

RE: NAVY-MARINE MEMORIAL

Dear Mr. Demaray:

In reply to your letter of May 17th we believe it would be quite possible to modify the structural details of the design of the steps along the lines suggested in your letter of May 17th as to Item #1, also item #2, but we feel that omitting the rounded nosing of the steps as suggested in item #3 would be seriously detrimental to the pedestal design, and we do not believe that since all of these steps are curved that the cost of finishing it with a rounded nosing instead of a square nosing would be a serious item. The spirit of the design of these steps has been to simulate the ripples as you see them on the sea beach. That was the reason for the curved form of the steps and the reason for the rounded nosing.

We suggest that changes #1 and #2 be made in the design, but that the rounded nosing be retained at least to the degree that we get estimates on its construction in that way.

Yours very truly,

CORBETT AND MACMURRAY

By (Signed) Harvey Wiley Corbett

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

May 17, 1939

Mr. Harvey Wiley Corbett,
130 West 42nd Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Corbett:

Reference is made to the act of Congress, approved April 26, 1939, providing for the completion of the Navy-Marine Memorial in Washington, and especially to the portion which provides that the National Park Service is authorized to modify the structural details, if necessary, without deviating from the design.

The amount of money made available for the construction work will not be sufficient to complete the Memorial in every detail as called for on the original drawings. In order to accomplish the work within the funds available, it will be necessary to make certain minor changes in your plans and to accomplish same the following suggestions are offered for your consideration and approval:

1. Make each step in two pieces, consisting of 4" x 4" riser and a 2" thick tread.

2. Make the curve of the riser and nose of each step concentric in any one section and make each tread the same width throughout its entire length.

3. Omit the projected nose on each step; polish the riser and nose of each step but not the tread.

May we have your early comment on these suggestions in order that the work of preparing specifications may be gotten under way?

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) A. E. Demaray
Acting Director.

FFG:rh

cc - The Director
Mr. Finnan
Mr. Frick
Mr. Taylor
Mr. Gillen
Mr. Montgomery
Mr. Caemmerer - Fine Arts Commission

76TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6830

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 14, 1939

Mr. VINSON of Georgia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds

A BILL

To authorize the construction of new buildings for the Navy Department in the District of Columbia.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That pursuant to the provisions of the Public Buildings Act
4 approved May 25, 1926 (44 Stat. 630), as amended, the
5 Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and directed
6 to acquire within the area included in squares 10, 11, 12,
7 S-12, 20, 21, and 22, in the District of Columbia, a site,
8 and to construct thereon a building or buildings for the
9 Navy Department, including, in addition to the necessary
10 staff and office buildings, a museum, underground garage,
11 ship berthings, and the relocation of Potomac Drive, and

EXHIBIT F

1 including connecting tunnels, the extension of steam and
2 water mains, removal or diversion of such sewers and utili-
3 ties as may be necessary, under a total limit of cost of
4 $23,466,000 and the previous total limit of the authoriza-
5 tions for the purchase of land and the construction of build-
6 ings in the District of Columbia, prescribed under the Act
7 of May 25, 1926, and the amendments thereto, is hereby
8 increased by the amount of the limit of cost herein authorized.
9 There are hereby authorized to be appropriated the
10 necessary sums to carry out the above project within the
11 specified limit of cost.

76TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6830

A BILL

To authorize the construction of new buildings for the Navy Department in the District of Columbia.

By Mr. VINSON of Georgia

JUNE 14, 1939

Referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds

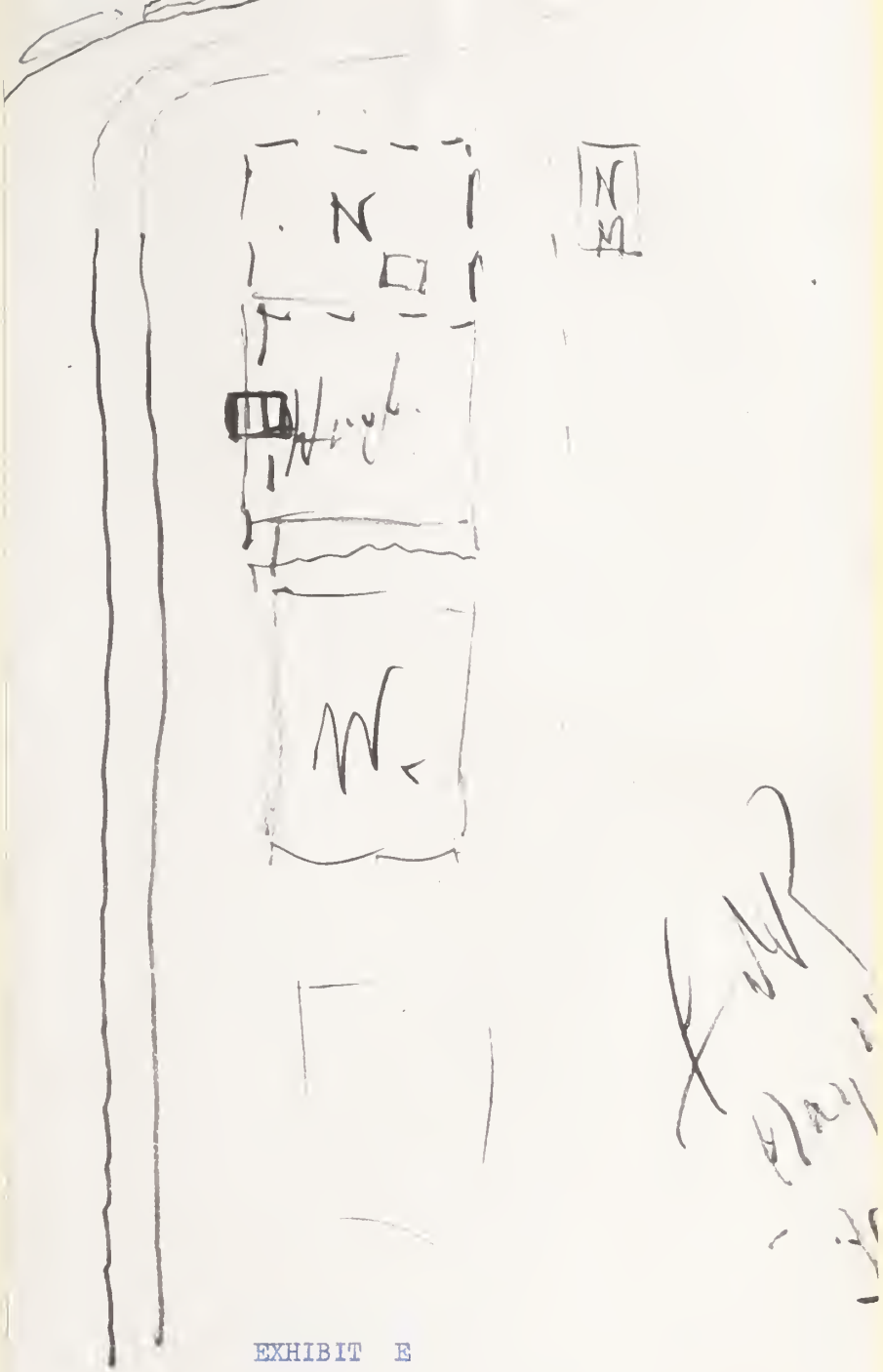

EXHIBIT E